

INTL

23 June 1947

Country: Germany (Russian Zone)
Subject: Moscow Directive Confines Research in Germany to Guided Missiles Field

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1. On 20 March 1947, the Soviet Navy staff at Karlsborst received a telegram from Moscow roughly memorized [] as follows:

"You will discontinue all research on all subjects you are working on at present except those concerned with guided missiles (Bomber-Raketen). All your research projects will be directed immediately to the development of all apparatus pertaining to guided missiles prior to dispatch, target practice apparatus (Zielübungsgerate), and any other necessary installations for the practical use of guided missiles. Full details will be pouched."

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2. On 21 March, at a meeting attended by Lieutenant Colonel V. G. Andreyev, Major Rivkin and Dr. Giovanni Hilgers, Andreyev acquainted his colleagues with the contents [] and told them that research in any other direction would have to be stopped and emphasis placed on the new order. He said this was the top directive, that it had to be followed, and that results were expected as soon as possible.

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3. Andreyev earlier had made plans for the development of an aerial gunnery training device; notwithstanding an allocation of money and the hiring of personnel, this project was cancelled on 21 March.

[] Comment: The new directive would not appear to affect any radical change in Dr. Hilgers' department, as he was hired to develop a testing apparatus for guided missile steering devices.

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